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The Undergraduate.

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Editors' Table.

EXAMINATIONS will soon be with us again. Fortunately they will not be "oral" and before an examining committee, after the manner of those at the close of the year, but probably written in form, searching in nature, and of much value as a mental exercise. We suppose there will be about the usual amount of cramming, cribbing and worriment over probable marks. As for marks, they amount to but little at any rating and are likely to always be productive of more harm than good. Each student is the best judge of his faithfulness and progress in work, and he knows that whatever mark he gets will make no difference in the value his study has been to him. If he is studying, as students ought, from a love for learning and with a sincere desire for development, his marks, high or low, just or unjust, can have but little effect in influencing his mind or disturbing its equilibrium. It is the marking system that is largely responsible for the evils of cramming and cribbing. Cribbing is always wholly inexcusable; it may tide one over to a desired grade, but can never make a mind that has been guilty of carelessness and neglect, know more or feel any better. Furthermore, no number of high marks or desired honors can atone for a mean and dishonorable act or make up for a loss of self-respect. The habit of reviewing and systematizing what one has been over is an excellent thing, but it is quite a ways distant from what is commonly known as cramming. The night before examination is rather late for acquiring much new knowledge or for absorbing any great amount for permanent value. If examination comes and one knows but little about the subject, one of the best ways out of it is to accept the situation philosophically, get a good night's rest and thus have one's brain in good condition for the coming ordeal, if so it must be regarded. We believe the way to take an examination, both in anticipation, participation and reflection is in a calm, matter-of-fact and every day sort of manner. Worry is wearing as well as unavailing and often uncalled for; cramming is a forcing process and may result in mental derangement; cribbing is wholly wrong, always unsatisfactory and unworthy of consideration; marks make one to have neither more nor less of knowledge and are a poor star whereto to tie the halter of one's ambition. Knowledge is power and gained only by work, study and experience. Examinations are but incidents along its path, on the whole useful, enjoyable and beneficial, but never meant to be objects of special mental, moral or physical disturbance.

AT one of the recitation hours recently one of the professors gave the assembled class an informal lecture on practical matters and general behavior for all occasions. Although college students are supposed to be ladies and gentlemen arrived to the age of discretion and good behavior, yet is it not likely that

such lectures and those on kindred subjects could be given on a more extended scale with most beneficial results? Talks about matters affecting the future lives of the students might be given two or three times each term, which would certainly be of value to the students and of beneficial influence to their daily and after life. Such lectures delivered in the chapel before all the students by some of the faculty or other well-qualified individual would surely be appreciated and of benefit to the careful and thoughtful student, and could do all others no harm, at least. The different classes now and then receive informal talks on certain questions, but a prescribed inexpensive lecture course, so arranged as not to intrude upon recitations, would add a new feature to the college life and one whose value can not adequately be estimated.

NOW that a successful and interesting debate has been held between the Seniors of this college, why would it not prove both valuable and interesting for the students of this college to arrange, if possible, a debate with the students of the University of Vermont. Each college could elect its debaters and the time, place and question to be debated decided upon satisfactorily to both institutions. Such an arrangement would be sure to draw a large audience and would also show something of the respective training and powers of each college along this line. Besides, those taking an active part would reap especially manifest results for their labors. Possibly two or three debates might be arranged to take place at different dates, and thus the agony, excitement and benefit would be mutually prolonged and increased.

THE course of four lectures as arranged by Professor Wright is something which should receive the hearty support of every student and which Middlebury College as an institution of its kind should see that it supports or encourages by some means or other. A large number of our colleges have arrangements for a course of lectures during the winter. both for the students and public, and good results are sure to follow. This is one of the steps toward university extension. But whether viewed in this light or for the college alone, they should receive the attention of students and faculty, as the coming in contact with able speakers from different places and on different subjects cannot fail to give many new ideas and infuse new life and interest into the subject treated.

AS a matter of fact we scarcely ever see any college notes in the Rutland *Herald* and very few in the Burlington *Free Press*. Now both papers would be glad to publish the same were they submitted to them regularly and from reliable sources. Notes of interest about students and their doings ought to be supplied from our college to our papers not only as a benefit to the college itself, but as news of great interest to the alumni and for the information to those interested in the college. A few years ago this was done. Why should it die out now? Let some of the students write up the happenings of interest and send to the papers regularly. If necessary, let them be elected by the student body or appointed in some way so that the matter may be attended to. Surely some interest ought to be shown in this by those who care about having the college and its doings better known. Perhaps the formation of a Press club would result in a speedy and satisfactory arrangement of the matter.

HOW meaningless and unappreciated the books in the library are to some and how brim-full of meaning, interest and thought they are to others may often be observed. In much of the required readings for the term logical and philosophical writers are interspersed with others whose works are in the style of a narrative or history. A thorough and progressive student, one who delights in reading literature for the benefit which he himself derives from it as well as the mere pleasure it gives, will select the easier reading with that which is harder and which requires more thought and strict attention. Gulliver's travels do not require that brain power and closeness of mental application as do Milton's Paradise Lost or Ruskin's Sesame and Lilies. It is as well to select the profound and inspiring with the lighter and more amusing matter The stomach needs more than one kind of food, the brain more than one kind of book material. It is because of this that it is often the case that a clergyman, a professor, or a philosopher, after some special mental exertion, finds pleasure and recreation in a work of a somewhat light or sentimental nature. In the choosing of books there is room for taste and fancy. An attractive cover gives pleasure to one, a neat and compact volume is admired by another, while a choice but unpretentious work delights a third, while to others the contents alone are of importance. The great familiarity with words which Shakespeare shows, the eloquence of Burke, the logical thoughts of

Johnson, the fantastic and weird ideas and conceptions of DeQuincey, no one can understand, much less appreciate, without careful study. A true lover of literature is never content with one reading of a valuable work; he will read them repeatedly, and in reading them he will come to understand them more and more, so that the h dden beauty and richness of the work, the character and genius of the author, will come to be a part of his thought and being, wherein is its great value.

WITHOUT practice one cannot hope to become fluent in anything. There are a good number of students, notably Freshmen, who seem to realize they will not become especially proficient in debating and public speaking without more training than the customs and present organizations of the institution afford. These same students are gaining some special practice by continually agitating the question of a debating society, but find no opposition. The reason why the organization has not been made as yet is probably because there is an uncertainty about having a suitable time and place for meeting. We do not believe the faculty or those students interested can afford to let the movement languish on this account. The Chapel is undoubtedly the most desirable place for holding the exercises and an evening hour is by far the most acceptable to the majority of the students. An arc light would not be a matter of much expense, and if it does not appear there during the vacation as a New Year's present to the students, the subscription paper remains as a last resort for accomplishing the desired end. There can and must be a debating society. An organization where students may meet, irrespective of class, sex or fraternity, and take a part and interest in exercises helping to their mutual improvement and advantage, is too desirable a thing to exist in talk and fancy merely. Ease and self possession in manner and speaking are perhaps things which the world expects of college graduates above all others, and they are points for which the practical student will not fail to give as much as he is able. It is a favorable sign of the times when a member of the faculty can publicly announce that he is coming to actually enjoy the rhetorical exercises. It is a better sign yet when those responsible for those exercises are ready and persistently anxious to found and perpetuate an organization which must inevitably result in making them even more acceptable and worthy. There should and will be a debating society.

THE UNDERGRADUATE has noted with considerable amusement the contributions that have come into its possession regarding the recent removal of certain trees upon the campus and along Waldo Avenue. One, who signs himself as "Lover of Nature," says, in part: "It is with deep sorrow that we view the cutting down of those majestic poplars in the park, gigantic, proud old landmarks that they are, having resisted the fiercest of storms that for many years have swept over the campus. Now, deprived of life and power, they are to be used only for the fireplace. How pleasant was it when standing on the library steps to watch the gambols of the squirrels flitting to and fro, playing at hide and seek among the leafy bowers! No more will visitors admire them as specimens and models of the vegetable kingdom. We are disposed to think it is not out of order to quote that piece of poetry which appeals to every true lover of nature entitled, 'Woodman, spare that tree.' We trust that the honorable authorities will not allow this wholesale slaughter to continue, and will see that our campus is not further deprived of these gifts of nature which we as students love." Another comes forward confidently affirming that "the appearance of the campus has been greatly improved in the last few weeks. The dense growth of evergreens on each side of Waldo Avenue has been cut down and the tall poplars, whose decayed trunks have been eye-sores for a long time to all lovers of beauty, have fallen before the woodman's axe in the march of improvement. We heartily approve this change for the better made by the college authorities and trust 'twill continue to a greater extent." A third is disposed to mildly remark that "some of the trees on the campus have recently been cut down and Waldo Avenue has been laid open by the taking away of the spruces on either side. To some this seems best to have these trees cleared away. To many it appears almost like a sacrilege. Some of these trees are old landmarks and are held as almost sacred, but, nevertheless, it is an evident fact that the trees were getting too thick. Though we would have our campus shaded and pleasant, yet the trees should not be so thick as to draw the mosquitoes in summer, nor so dense as to hold the moisture and dampness about the buildings, nor thick enough to shut out the sun, which is for the light and life of all. Certainly we have plenty left for shade and could well spare more. Before, we scarcely had any view of the roads or from the road one could scarce tell what our buildings were.

Now we will have a better view, more sun and a needed improvement." The general opinion among the students, and others than students, is undoubtedly to the effect that the move is a wholly sensible and needed one and the results wholly justify the change made.

MENTAL POVERTY.

ONE of our Professors said the other morning that he did not like to think any of the students had such mental poverty that they could not find interesting subjects for their orations or essays.

I am afraid that the Professor did not like to tell what he thought, so he told us what he did not like to think.

It seems to me, and I presume some of you at least will agree with me, that we are mentally poverty-stricken. Indeed, if there were a mental poor house I think we should go there.

We ought to be, and are ashamed, that we have so little knowledge of things, so little interest in things, and so few original thoughts. It seems as though students, those who spend all their time in acquiring an education, ought to have enough ideas so that they could write two orations or essays a term. If we do not, there must be something wrong. It must be that we do not get enough of the thought out of what we study. Many of us study not to acquire a thorough knowledge of the subject but that we may make a good recitation and get a high rank in the class, things well enough in themselves, but which often hinder more extended study by which one might get interested in his work.

We study or read a book through and put it aside none the better for having read it, because all we got out of it was a few dry facts, nothing that gave us new impulses, interests, or set us to thinking for ourselves. Indeed we study as though we were mere machines for committing to memory certain facts. We do not get interested enough in our work to think things out for ourselves. We merely put the lesson in our heads, the Professor turns the crank and it is ground out. The grinding, though rather unpleasant as that kind of music is likely to be, is no fault of the Professor's, for that is the only way possible to get out what is thus learned.

Perhaps you may have noticed some person who always eats fast and an enormous amount, yet continues poor, while the slow eater beside him eats but little and grows fat. It seems to me that this illustrates the way we treat our brains. After having hurriedly crammed them with anything that comes to hand until they are clogged and cannot digest what they have, we wonder that they do not get fat, that our heads are vacuums.

There are other ways than by study whereby one may increase his mental ideas. One of the most important ways is by conversation. Especially with those of superior knowledge and mental power.

He who has noticed the wealth of ideas possessed by some uneducated person probably has wondered at it. In such a man the power of observation is probably great. By careful observation of all about him he has obtained a far better education than he who can give all the rules of digamma, the kings of England in order, or tell the sines or co sines of impossible angles, but who has not a single idea of his own.

ABBIE L. KING, '94.

AN OLD COLLEGE CATALOGUE.

THE announcement in "Town and Campus" of the October number of the UNDERGRADUATE that the "Freshman class numbers thirty-one, and is the largest since the war," was undoubtedly read with pleasure by all friends of "Old Midd." It might as truthfully have gone further and read "*before* the war," for it is the largest class entered since 1859. Old alumni, who have received the recently published catalogue of 1892–93. will note with great satisfaction the lengthened roll of students, so like the long lists of names contained in our college catalogues before the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion. This likeness suggests a comparison in other respects of the new catalogue with one of that period.

The catalogue first seen by the writer was that of 1860–61, in which appear the names of ninety-four students. The Sophomore class ('63) with its list of twenty-nine names is the largest. The effect of the Rebellion upon the college may be judged from the fact that the "fortunes of war" and other causes reduced the class to eleven men at graduation. The Freshman class ('64), which had upon its roll during the college course thirty-three names, also graduated only eleven men. Not less than eighteen of this class are known to have served in the army or navy.

The imprint of the catalogue, "Published by the Class of '61," needs explanation, perhaps. It was really a combination of two publications compiled and

printed by the Senior class. Before the time of our college annual, the *Kaleidoscope*, two editions of the catalogue were issued; one, with pages added after the "calendar," giving the membership, etc., of "societies in the order of their establishment," and the other, with these pages omitted, printed for the use of the faculty. The former included the "societies," the Philomathesian (literary) and the Philadelphian (religious), together with the Greek-letter fraternities. Each student subscribed for as many copies of this edition as he desired, paying for the same a sufficient sum to defray the cost of printing the additional pages. The remainder of the printer's bill was paid by the college authorities. In their general appearance and typography, the catalogues published by the students compare favorably with the attractive issues of the past five or six years. They were certainly greatly superior to most of those issued by the college authorities prior to 1887–88.

In 1860–61 the regular college faculty consisted of the President, four professors and a tutor. The professor of mathematics also taught physics and astronomy, the professor of languages taught Latin, Greek and German, and the tutor was the sole instructor of the Freshman class in all departments. Professors Seely and Kellogg are the only instructors, named in the catalogue of 1860–61, who are still members of the faculty. President Brainerd's name, however, was then in the list of Freshmen.

The walls of Starr Hall were only just rising from the ground, and instead of the familiar abbreviation, "S. H." after the names of the students, there appear sundry other ones. These were numerous enough to have an entire page devoted to them, and we find them explained, under the heading, "Abbreviations," as standing for "East College," "Painter's Hall," "South College," "Phrontisterion," and "Athenæum." Painter Hall was the principal dormitory; East College was an old frame building now replaced by the Graded School; South College was the chapel, in which the two college bell ringers then had their room; the Phronisterion was the brick building adjoining the rectory of St. Stephen's Episcopal church on Academy street; the Athenæum was the upper story of what is now called Dyer's block at the south end of the bridge. The Phrontisterion and Athenæum were occupied exclusively by members of two of the Greek-letter fraternities.

After the list of students there is a "Summary," which might well be made again a feature of the college catalogue. From this we learn that there were 19 Seniors, 21 Juniors, 29 Sophomores and 25 Freshmen. The pages of this catalogue are not brightened by the names of young ladies, which we now find in the roll of students; co-education was not then even thought of.

The "terms of admission" and "courses of instruction" have since been greatly improved both in quantity and quality. Then there were no "Classical" and "Latin-Scientific" courses, and "electives" were unknown. On Monday mornings throughout the year the Freshman and Sophomore classes recited in "Greek Testament," the Juniors in "Evidences of Christianity," and the Seniors in "Natural Theology." As recitations they were almost wholly perfunctory; those of the Juniors being especially so, as the professor kindly kept his eyes on his "Paley" while the student read the lesson to him from the text-book.

Each class had its own recitation room and used no other except for laboratory or philosophical work; each also had its "class professor," as he was called, who presided over the class at meetings for the election of candidates for the prize-speaking, etc. On Monday mornings he also received excuses for absences from church and chapel-prayers, reported in the weekly "monitor's bill." This ceremony was technically termed "lying-off demerit."

Scholarships were limited to a few belonging to private individuals, and prizes were fewer still and small in amount. Of the latter only the "Parkerian" and the "Literary Fund" survive.

The fall term commenced in the early part of September, after a summer vacation of only four weeks, and ended about the first of December. About a week before the close of the term occurred the "exhibition" of the Philomathesian literary society, with its orations, debate and colloquy. Then followed a winter vacation of eight weeks, which might be extended to thirteen by those students who taught school, and "their name was legion." This extension of time was called "short term"; and the only students in attendance at college were those who were pursuing special studies or making up "conditions."

The writer of this will not soon forget the "short term" of 1861, when, in company with C. C. Smith of '62 and Herbert of '64, he waded through the deep snow, the mercury more frequently below than above zero, to recite at the professors' houses long lessons in

the "Panegyricus" of Socrates and "Conic-sections."

Junior exhibition occurred at the end of the winter term, and there was then, as now, a spring vacation of two weeks. The spring term of thirteen weeks was shortened to eight weeks for Seniors, and then came the annual examinations and commencement exercises.

The anniversaries of the Philomathesian and Philadelphian societies occurred on the day before commencement with addresses by distinguished orators of the literary and religious world. Such men as Wendell Phillips, Emerson, Whipple and Storrs were the favorites. On Tuesday evening the "Parkerian Prize Speaking" was one of the great attractions. Commencement day ended in the President's reception, at which, for the first time, he addressed each newly-fledged alumnus as "Mr."

The anniversary of the Associated alumni occurred on Thursday, and so closed the college year.

SOPHOMORE of 1860–61.

Communication.

The editors do not assume responsibility for any article in this column. Its sentiments, however, are open to editorial criticism.

EDITORS OF UNDERGRADUATE:

THERE has a tendency arisen during the last year among several of the colleges to revive the old-fashioned custom of debating. As soon as this started it was taken up by all the leading papers of the country, the idea heartily approved, and anxiety shown that it should be carried out.

There is no doubt that athletics are attracting the attention of students to too great an extent. An unfavorable impression of colleges is being gained by a great number of people, from thinking that the training of the body is made of importance at the expense of the training of the mind. It is not my intention to decry athletics, but rather to express the belief that mental contests are of far more importance in education than physical.

Doubtless there is no way in which the general knowledge and mental ability of the student can be more practically manifested and utilized, than in debating; there is certainly no other way to become skilled in extemporaneous speaking. Chauncey M. Depew says that the reason we have so few eloquent speakers at the present time is because debating has been neglected in our higher institutions of learning. Although the days are past when a powerful orator can sway the opinions of men more by an attractive manner of speaking than by depth of thought, yet the person who has the ability to tell what he knows in such a way as to attract and interest hearers, has far greater influence than one with the same amount of knowledge that is unable to express himself.

Now, in view of these things and the fact that debating is once more to become popular in colleges, we as students of Middlebury should be prominent in vigorously pushing work along this line and not wait to bring up the rear. There is now much oratorical ability in this college with a good chance for extensive development and cultivation. During the coming term let us have debates, conducted either by an organized debating society with officers, or by classes. In either case, class debates will be of special interest. Also intercollegiate debates could probably be arranged with some of the neighboring institutions and a more healthful, rather than a hurtful rivalry, would be brought about between the colleges, together with a more prevailing respectful and friendly feeling.

There can be doubt that this subject is an important one and should be seriously considered. Efforts to carry it out should be speedily made. It is of concern both to students and the college. Something more than talk ought to begin to be done. It seems as if more general interest and enthusiasm in this line should be manifested. If the chapel be properly lighted and heated, there is all reason for believing that an organization will be effected for holding these debates and work begun at once. It at least is heartily hoped so by

ONE INTERESTED.

Personals.

[*The editor of this department appreciates the fact that it is one of special interest to the alumni. But as they are widely scattered and many are unknown to him, he asks them to send to the Undergraduate from time to time whatever items they may come in possession of and thus aid in making this department what the alumni desire it to be and what the editors endeavor to make it.*]

'40. To the Hon. Edward J. Phelps, for whom the Democratic members of the Vermont legislature cast their votes for Senator in recent joint assembly, Hon. Redfield Proctor paid the following graceful tribute: "I would offer words of consolation to my competitor—the candidate of the Democratic party—if I thought he stood in need of them. I cannot believe he is disconsolate, or disappointed, even. It was very grat-

ifying to my State pride, and especially so to my personal feeling, that the present Republican administration, while I was a member of it, selected the very best man in the country to represent American interests in our most important legal and diplomatic controversy, the Behring sea arbitration, and that we were not deterred in making this selection by the fact that he was a citizen of this little Republican State, and a Democrat at that. We here in Vermont, who know Minister Phelps, have no doubt that in this difficult and delicate matter he will add to the high honor he has already won in the service of his country."

'48. Pres. Rankin of Howard University and his family have recently returned from traveling in Europe. In London he attended the meeting of the Oriental Congress. Howard University is adding a new Law Lecture hall, called after ex-Senator Evarts, and a new Medical amphitheatre. The number of students is between five and six hundred. Among the teachers is a young colored graduate of Cornell University.

'57. Hon. H. H. Thomas is one of the directors supervising the construction of a mammoth hotel, covering ten acres of ground and containing 6124 rooms, being built at Chicago for the World's Fair.

'66. Hon. Julius S. Grinnell was one of the most prominent figures at the regular bi-monthly social dinner of the Northwestern Association of the Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity which took place recently at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago. Remarks were made by him, among other things, concerning the subject of an exhibit at the World's Fair and upon the establishment of chapters of the society in the new Chicago University and the Northwestern University at Evanston.

'71. Hon. Walter E. Howard, U. S. consul at Cardiff, Wales, was in the United States recently on a 45 days' leave of absence. He was in Middlebury about a week and visited the college on the morning of Nov. 12, when he addressed the students at the close of the chapel exercises. He gave an account of his visits to the historic places of Great Britain, and especially Stratford-on-Avon and the Houses of Parliament. His remarks received the closest attention and were heartily appreciated.

'73. George W. Brooks was recently called to Middlebury to attend the funeral of his father.

'75. A bill which passed the Vermont legislature, designed to expedite legislative proceedings, was drawn up by Chas. M. Wilds of Middlebury, chairman of the committee appointed for the purpose at the recent annual meeting of the State Bar association. Mr. Wilds is one of the recently-elected Republican electors for the State of Vermont.

'81. "The Wandering Guest" is the name of a poem by James Clarence Harvey in the *Independent* of Dec. 8.

'86. Mr. Jesse A. Ellsworth, last year principal of the High school in Rutland, is visiting his parents in Whiting. He is now managing the Ohio business of Ginn & Co., the Boston educational publishers.

'90. Rev. June E. Mead of Day, N. Y., recently passed a few days at his home in Middlebury. He preached in the Methodist church Dec. 11.

D. K. E. CONVENTION.

The 46th annual convention of the Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity was held with the Southern Alumni association at Chattanooga, Tenn., Nov. 15–17. This was the first convention held in the South since the war, and the reputed hospitality of the Southerners was well borne out in the many attentions bestowed upon the visiting delegates.

The programme of the convention as carried out was as follows: Tuesday evening, reception to delegates at the Mountain City club; Wednesday morning, business session at the Mountain City club; afternoon, excursion to Lookout Mountain, and photographs taken of the delegates; evening, public exercises at the Unitarian church, at which E. W. Mattson, Wesleyan '82, presided, and the Rev. Dr. G. W. T. Price of Nashville, delivered the main address. Fraternity songs were sung, and an orchestra rendered several selections. Thursday morning and afternoon were given up to business sessions. In the evening a reception was held at the Read House, the headquarters of the convention, at which the famed Fisk Jubilee singers and the Opera House orchestra alternated in rendering selections. Following the reception came the annual convention banquet.

No new charters were granted by the convention. Permanent D. K. E. headquarters were established at Chicago for the World's Fair. Action was taken looking toward the revision of the fraternity song book and the appearance of a new edition the present year.

Chattanooga is a beautiful and thriving city, and has historical associations such as few places can claim. Mission Ridge, Lookout Mt., and the National cemetery are among the places of interest to the visitor. Dr. W. C. Townes, chairman, and J. B. Whitehead Esq., secretary of the convention committee, were untiring in their efforts for the welfare of the convention. Some of the delegates took occasion to visit Washington, D. C., in their trip. The next convention will be held at Minneapolis.

Exchanges.

The *Adelphian*, with its motto "*Vita sine litteris mors est*," is one of the most attractive of all Academy papers. The November issue contains an especially interesting and valuable contribution about "Carmen Sylva," the Poet Queen of Roumania."

Speaking of college spirit, the *Campus* of the Rochester University, says: "We shrink from this topic. It is ghostly. It savors of cemeteries and seances. Yet we would fain conjure up the wraith whose name heads this article, and learn in what far dim-lit realm it roams and why it bides no more with us. But alas its rappings are all too seldom heard, and these but soft and feeble." The *Campus* believes that "unity plus loyalty, plus activity raised to the *n*th power" will bring about the desired result all right.

"The fundamental idea and object of University Extension is to bring the University to the people, when the people cannot come to the University. It may be regarded as the outcome of two great modern institutions, Universal Elementary Education and Free Public Libraries. It is possible in its present form, because of the recent development of our railway system," says the *University Cynic* in its third chapter regarding "University Extension and English Universities."

Editorial advice regarding examinations is especially valuable these days. The *Ariel* of Minnesota offers the following don'ts:

Don't lie awake nights thinking of the mistakes you have made. You can't change them.

Don't cheat, not even scientifically. No number of high marks can atone for a mean act.

Don't "cram." If you can't pass in a study without "cramming," you can't, as a general rule, with it.

Don't lose control of yourself. In other words, keep cool.

Don't let an extra hard examination unnerve you. It is not your fault if an impossibility is asked of you. Eat heartily, sleep soundly, keep a clear conscience and you can confidently trust to Providence for the rest.

"General Knowledge" is the title of a two-column article in the *Cadet* for December. Among other expressions of worth in it we find the following:

"General knowledge and the power of conversing intelligently are two of the chief attributes of the popular thinker.

"There is still another kind of knowledge that is very important; that is a knowledge of human nature, and this one can gain only by mingling with others.

"Aim to excel in some one thing, but at the same time gain as much knowledge of other things as possible. Do not be too ready to air your knowledge, but be prepared at all times to state positively and calmly what you know.

"If you wish for information don't be afraid to ask for it. One gains but very little knowledge that he does not seek.

"Never be afraid to state your principles and stick to them, yet at the same time be careful not to try to advertise yourself. If you are worth advertising, others will do it for you free gratis."

"The Listener" in a recent *Dartmouth* asks, "What is a college education worth in money?" and remembers to have heard a professor, an eminently practical man, make some remarks on this subject. He thought a college course was worth ten thousand dollars to the average student, each recitation having a value of three dollars. Though this is not apparent to "the Listener," he believes that "though a college education cannot in an economic sense be considered as wealth or capital, it certainly has a great value—rather a lifelong utility, difficult to estimate in terms of dollars and cents. However, it is probably safe to proceed somewhat by economic principles and state that the worth of a college education depends largely upon the amount of labor, not of money—devoted by the student to the getting of it."

A Freshman knows everything; he has explored the universe and has proved all things. A Sophomore has the wisdom of an owl, but, like that sedate bird, keeps still about it. A Junior knows a little, but begins to be doubtful about it. A Senior knows nothing.—*Syracusan.*

We consider the *Ariel* of the University of Minne-

sota one of the best conducted and well-proportioned weeklies in the college world. It is prompt in its appearance and has vigorous and timely editorials. In a logical and able discussion regarding "Was Hamlet Mad?" in the issue of Dec. 3, a writer concludes: "His own language, his personal appearance, much of which cannot be accounted for by any voluntary action upon his part; the strange and unaccountable things which he did; the positive, unqualified testimony of those who were nearest to and best acquainted with him, are all cumulative evidences that Hamlet's mind was, as Ophelia beautifully expressed it, "like sweet bells jangled, out of tune, and harsh."

One theory advanced as to why fraternities are opposed by the faculty of Chicago University is because of the position of Stagg, the physical instructor; he is of the opinion that fraternities tend to destroy athletics by inciting factions among the students. Some very sensible words appear in the *University Herald* regarding fraternity rivalries and relations: "But the time has come when the honorable element in every chapter should assert itself and demand that members restrict themselves more closely to facts when discussing the merits or demerits of rivals. We believe that there is abundant moral sentiment among us to bring about this result. The organization that persists in personalities and false statements deserves harsh treatment at the hands of all students, regardless of fraternity prejudices, who favor a display of fairness. If the spirit referred to could dominate our chapters, the attendant evils cropping out in class, athletic and general elections would disappear, and we believe that more general college enthusiasm would be apparent. At any rate, an excellent opportunity is afforded us all to cultivate more liberality in our fraternal relations. The general college welfare demands that we should."

The Colby *Echo* of Dec. 3 says: "When you get the wrong kind of dessert for dinner, when the rocking chairs unite in a conspiracy to trip you up and the slices of bread which the world offers you always fall butter side down, just retire to your sanctum, resolutely lock the door against all intruders, and read the essays of Elia. Before you are half through you will be convinced that the world is a good place to live in after all, and when you are through you are at peace with all mankind; for you can find no author who proves a more charming friend on short acquaintance than Lamb does."

In an article on "Wit and Humor," speaking of the saving grace of humor, the December *Atlantic* says: "A keen sense of the absurd is so little relished by those who have it not that it is too often considered solely as a weapon of offense, and not as a shield against the countless ills that come to man through lack of sanity and judgment. There is a well-defined impression in the world that the satirist, like the devil, roams abroad, seeking whom he may devour, and generally devouring the best; whereas his position is often that of the besieged, who defends himself with the sharpest weapons at his command against a host of invading evils. There are many things in life so radically unwholesome that it is not safe to approach them save with laughter as a disinfectant; and when people cannot laugh, the moral atmosphere grows stagnant, and nothing is too morbid, too preposterous or too mischievous to meet with sympathy and solemn assurances of good will. This is why a sense of the ridiculous has been justly called the guardian of our minor morals, rendering men in some measure dependent upon the judgments of their associates, and laying the basis of that decorum and propriety of conduct which is a necessary condition of human life."

Town and Campus.

Grant, '95, visited Ripton Oct. 28.

Benedict, '91, was in town Nov. 24.

McNaboe, '92, visited friends in college Oct. 29.

There is some talk of organizing a dramatic club.

Pres. Brainerd preached at Ticonderoga Nov. 27.

A banjo club has been organized among the co-eds.

Chapman, '94, has taken several orders for college pins.

Douglass, '93, spent a few days at his home election week.

Dunton, formerly of '95, visited college the first of November.

Wilcox, '96, was home for a few days the last of November.

There has been some talk of organizing an orchestra in college.

Miss Dunshee, '93, spent Sunday, Nov. 6, at her home in Bristol.

The board bills for Starr Boarding Hall for the first

half of the term appeared November 1, with charges at $2.20 a week.

First snow storm of the season occurred Nov. 2; no signs of it remain.

Roscoe, '96, spends his Saturdays and Sundays at his home in New Haven.

The base ball manager has recently had the diamond plowed and leveled.

Wynne, '93, made a political speech at Port Henry on the evening of Nov. 7.

Preparations have been made to plant vines at the south end of Painter Hall.

Scott, '95, passed Thanksgiving with Russell, '96, at his home in New Haven.

The co-eds, except those of the Senior class, have appeared in university caps.

Dunton, '95, expects to enter college again next spring in the Freshman class.

Ross, '90, visited friends in town and college Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 12–13.

Seeley, '93, spent his vacation at hunting ducks in the northern part of Vermont.

Some of the students attended the W. C. T. U. meeting at Prof. Seely's Nov. 16.

Megathlin, '93, and Cushman, '95, spent a few days with Adams, '95, at Thanksgiving time.

Leonard, '95, exchanged with Rev. Mr. Heaxt of the Methodist church Sunday, Nov. 13.

A "Turkey Club" is believed to have recently been formed among the young ladies of the college.

The students at the Boarding Hall have adopted the plan of paying for their board twice each term.

Students who dined Thanksgiving day at the Boarding Hall report that they failed to find the turkey.

Davis, '96, went to Bristol Thanksgiving day and remained ten days as clerk in Allen's clothing store.

Prof. Seely was one of the presidential electors on the Prohibition ticket of Vermont in the last election.

Sargent, '94, returned to college Nov. 2, after a month's work as mail clerk from Rutland to Fitchburg.

Miss Wilder, '93, Sargent '94, Fullam, '95 and Miss Pollard, '96, were at their homes in Ludlow, Nov. 23–28.

The Glee Club is doing a good deal of practicing. They expect to give several concerts during Christmas vacation.

Lamson, '96, preached in East Middlebury, Nov. 13, and supplied the pulpit in Ripton, Nov. 27, for Leonard, '95.

From the appearance of Battell Hall on the morning of Nov. 1 a passer-by would infer the co-eds work by the law of sines.

Hesselgrave, '93, and Hasseltine, '93, attended the concert given by the U. V. M. Glee and Banjo Club at Rutland, Dec. 9.

Gov. L. E. Knapp of Alaska gave the students an interesting talk at chapel one morning while in town. He was in the class of '62.

Hon. W. E. Howard, formerly Professor of History and Political Science, visited friends in town and college the first of November.

The Junior and Freshman classes have adopted mortar-boards; those of the former have blue tassels and the Freshman color is green.

There was a grand charity ball, a most successful and happy affair, given under the auspices of the ladies in town, in town hall, Dec. 2.

Miss King, '94, Miss Breckenridge, '95, Grant, '95, and Vicker, '95, spent Thanksgiving at the home of George Wright, '95, in Weybridge.

Foster, '96, and Moore, '96, Sniffen, '96, Douglass, '95, and Wilson, '95, were students who took Thanksgiving dinner with Rev. Mr. Heaxt.

Rev. E. J. Ranslow of Swanton preached in the Congregational church Sunday, Oct. 30. He was at chapel the following Monday morning.

Janitor Bean is juryman for the term of court which opened Dec. 6. Ex-Janitor Bolton rings the bell and cares for things generally when he is away.

Men are at work on the campus again this fall. Three large poplars in front of Painter Hall have been cut down, also the evergreens on both sides of Waldo avenue.

The students of the College manifested a great deal of interest in the late election, and on the night of election a large number were up nearly all night awaiting results.

The new catalogue, which appeared Nov. 23, shows there are in college 88 students, of whom 23 are co-eds. The Seniors number 16, Juniors 15, Sophomores 26 and Freshmen 31.

Kaleidoscope officers have been elected by the Junior class and are as follows: Chief, W. P. Clark:

assistants, Miss Clark, Bigelow, Wells and Toleman; business manager, W. E. Chapman.

The College Glee Club was reorganized Nov. 5. Hesselgrave, '93, was elected leader and Hasseltine, '93, manager. About $100 was pledged by the students and faculty for aid of the same.

Hayes, '94, Fitzpatrick, '96, Halnon, '96, and Miss Swiney, '96, took part in the play "Little Sunshine," given by the Catholic young people at town hall, Nov. 16. The play was given in Bristol Nov. 22.

Grant, '95, has recently owned a dog, but finding that it was both fastidious and persistent in its tastes for books, shoes, pants and other like material which could not well be dispensed with, has disposed of it.

The advent of Biela's comet was awaited with much interest and impatience and some astromical discussions were indulged in. The co-eds were especially interested in this matter and are supposed to be well posted.

Bigelow, Chapman, Toleman and Wells are the committee that have in charge the annual Junior Hop, which will be in town hall the evening of Dec. 20. The Howard Opera House orchestra will be in attendance.

Megathlin, '93, conducted services in the stone school house in West Cornwall, Sunday, Nov. 20. Regular services are held there under the auspices or the Baptist Y. P. S. C. E. with meetings held every Tuesday night.

The Junior class has elected the following officers: President, Stanton Eddy; vice-president, Miss Ranslow; secretary, Miss Ritchie; treasurer, Miss Clark; toastmaster, W. P. Clark; historian, O. J. Sawyer; orator, H. H. Seely.

Two Bible classes have been formed among the students. The one taking the book of St. John with "Believe" as the leading subject. is presided over by Megathlin, '93. Hesselgrave, '93, is leader of the other. They meet once a week.

The new catalogue shows the course to be slightly broadened in the electives. General History is now required throughout the year in place of Political Economy. The work in Greek that is required has been advanced about one term, and the requirements for the A. M. degree have been raised so that henceforth it will be wholly a degree of merit.

On the evening of Nov. 4, occured the debate between the William E. Russell Democratic club and the William McKinley Republican club, at the town hall before a good-sized and attentive audience. Prof. McGilton presided. The debaters were Donoway, Wynne and Brown for Democrats and Douglass, Ross and Seeley for Republicans, all from the Senior class. The debate lasted about two hours.

Thanksgiving vacation extended from Wednesday noon, Nov. 23, till the following Monday at 4 o'clock. Douglass '93, Hasseltine '93, Miss Dunshee '93, Lamson '96, Goodman '96 and Misses Roseman, Tylor, Barton and Ware '96 were of those who passed the vacation in Bristol. Miner '93 passed the Thanksgiving vacation with Brown '93 at his home in Jacksonville. On the morning of Nov. 19 they started for North Adams, Mass., where Brown fitted for college, and visited friends there and in Williams College till the middle of the week. Barlow '95 went as far as North Adams with them on the way to his home in Peru, Mass.

A canvass of the college showed that of the male students there were 32 Republicans, 18 Democrats and 15 Prohibitionists. Of the co-eds 18 expressed Republican preference, three were Prohibitionists and two Independents. Of the Wm. E. Russell Club, Brown '93 voted in Middlebury, Wynne '93 in Moriah, N. Y., Hayes '94 in Mineville, N. Y., Cutts '96 in Hillsboro Bridge, N. H., Foster '96 at West Camden, N. Y. Republicans that went home to vote were Douglass '93 to Norwood, N. Y., Miner '93 to New Haven, Chapman '94 to Moriah Centre, N. Y., Scott '95 to Andover, Mass., and Vicker '95 to Johnstown, N. Y. The Prohibition ticket was voted by Cady '93, Hesselgrave '93 and Taylor '96 at Middlebury, and by Wilson '95 at Port Henry, N. Y.

The Chi Psi fraternity enjoyed an exceedingly pleasant evening at the home of George S. Wright in Weybridge on the night of the 29th of November last. The students were accompanied by ladies, many of whom were from Battell Hall. The carriages, which started almost in line, drew up before Mr. Wright's about 8 o'clock. Many friends from Weybridge were also invited to honor the occasion. After all had been introduced a general good time was had till about 10 o'clock, when an adjournment to supper took place. On the middle of three tables, richly loaded down, stood an immense birthday cake with the letters $\Chi\ \Psi$ inscribed upon it. After all were seated Miner Hayward of Weybridge arose and with appropriate words made the speech of the occasion, and mentioned the

fact that in the cake were to be found a ring, thimble, key, money and other things, also giving the significance attached to each. The company was enlivened by songs rendered by Toleman, Seeley, Ross and others. The remainder of the evening was quickly taken up with games, tricks, etc., after which the guests returned home, having had a most enjoyable time.

Our Farrago.

The Editor has lost his pen that served so well before; he's hunted all around his den in basket, box and drawer, but though he cannot find his quill, he is not bathed in tears; his pen is gone, but he has still his paste-pot and his shears—*University Cynic.*

IS IT A FALLACY?

No men are perfect.
No perfect beings are men.
All men are imperfect.
All not imperfect beings are not men.
Women are not men.
Women are all perfect beings!—*Ex.*

A Prof. who lets athletics stray,
Amid his thoughts of heaven,
Read in the Spring "where are the nine?"
In the fall "where are the eleven?"

—*University Herald.*

I sat me down and thought profound;
This maxim wise I drew:
It's easier far to like a girl,
Than make a girl like you.

—*University Herald.*

Cotangent, cosecant, cosine,—
All co.'s that can be said,
Are not to be compared with thee,
Thou best of co.'s—co.ed.

—*University Herald.*

She answered me not,
As I pressed her soft hand.
But it's always my lot,
She answered me not
—Save by saying 'twas hot
And she wished to be fanned.
She answered me not
As I pressed her soft hand.

—*Williams Weekly.*

Such a worn-out old joke,
Yet we all shook with laughter.
"Ye Gods! Why invoke
Such a worn-out old joke?"
'Twas the Professor who spoke;
Now what were we after?
Such a worn-out old joke,
Yet we all shook with laughter.

—*Tuftonian.*

"No wonder me darlin' is cross-eyed,"
Said love-sick Pat to his mother,
"For both of her eyes are so pretty,
That each wants to look at the other."

—*Polytechnic.*

An Eastern school boy, being requested by the teacher to furnish an essay on "Anatomy," wrote as follows: "The human body is divided into three parts, the head, the chest and the stummick. The head contains the eyes and brains if any. The chest contains the lungs and a piece of the liver. The stummick is devoted to the bowels of which there are five: namely, a, e, i, o, u and sometimes w and y."—*Ex.*

AN UNKIND CUT.

Ye Senior hath a chapel cut,
He hideth in his lair;
Ye Junior hath a raisor cut
And much dishevelled hair hair;
Ye Sophy in his cutaway
Doth on the campus prance;
But ye Freshie hath the shortest cut
On the bottom of his pants.

—[*Cynic.*

He who courts and goes away
May live to court another day,
But he who weds and courts girls still
May get to court against his will.

—*Cadet.*

CHANGE.

The harp that once through Tara's hall
The soul of music shed.
No longer sounds; the banjo fiend
Gets in his work instead.

—*Trinity Tablet.*

A university student is spending his vacation very profitably in the country driving a yoke of oxen, and educating them in English classics. For example, instead of yelling "gee buck!" he elocutes the ejacula-

tion: "Abandon the direct progression to the straight thitherward and deviate by inclinatory and aberrant dextrogyration into a dextral incidence."—*Ex.*

AN APOLOGY.

Forgive me, love, if I amiss,
The other evening stole a kiss;
But that sweet smiling face of thine,
Wreathed by its tresses, soft and fine,
Was just a bit too close to mine.

You know you raised your head to hear,
What I was whispering in your ear;
When in an instant our lips met:
Sweet memories linger of it yet,
Sometimes, you know, love will forget.

—*Nassau Lit.*

"YOURS SINCERELY" SPEAKS.

MR. EDITOR:

If report be true a Banjo and Guitar Club has been organized among the ladies of the college. It is furthermore understood that the club has a good deal of musical ability, is practicing regularly and has already attained to a considerable degree of proficiency.

Now that we have a Glee Club in working order and soon to give concerts, why would it not be a good plan to unite these organizations and then have a Glee and Banjo Club of Middlebury college?

It is not presumed in this communication to offer advice to the glee club management nor is it certain that the banjo and guitar club would be induced to participate in concerts, but it is certain such a combination would be a unique departure in the college world. Why should not Middlebury inaugurate the plan of having its young women take part in its public musical exhibitions as well as recitations, rhetoricals, Junior Exhibition or Commencement exercises? If equal privilege and justice is a commendable thing to be meted out to students in one department of work or honor, it is equally so in another.

There is a somewhat current opinion that females who attend a co-educational college are mere "grinds" who, having no specially interesting or worthy personal qualities or accomplishments, obtain an education above the ordinary in order to be of some use in the world, or perhaps that they may find a fitting place in it. Such views are wholly erroneous and a libel to the co-eds of Middlebury College. The male students ought to be more proud and appreciative of their lady class mates. Did their qualities and accomplishments appear to such an extent in any other set of girls we would fall down before them and worship at the shrine of their attractions in undisguised admiration and fill the world full of their praises.

As a matter of common justice our plan recommends itself; as a novel feature in the college world it is incomparable; as a business venture it cannot be beaten. If we have in college a Banjo and Guitar club it should give concerts in connection with the Glee Club and with them do credit to the college and help to win glory for it. We are not a member of the Glee Club nor are we personally interested in any of the young ladies of the college, but we are and beg leave to remain

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